THE MARYLAND YELLOWTHROAT

A Publication of the Maryland Ornithological Society, Inc.

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DNR Reports...

In September, DNR hosted a conference at Tilghman Island on nongame bird management in the Northeast region. State nongame biologists, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service biologists and refuge managers, and other wildlife professionals attended the 3 day affair. The purpose of the conference was to present up-to-date information on various migratory nongame birds of concern, including management issues. Included with this meeting was the exchange of program activities and ideas from throughout the 13 northeastern states.

Discussions on species of concern covered colonial waterbirds, shorebirds, raptors, and neotropical migrants. Specific talks were presented on Pied-billed Grebe, American Bittern, Least Bittern, Black Rail, Yellow Rail, Upland Sandiper, Barn Owl, Red-shouldered Hawk, Northern Harrier, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Sedge Wren, Cerulean Warbler, Golden-winged Warbler, and Seaside Sparrow. Other topics addressed included effects of forest fragmentation, contaminants, diseases, and uses of Breeding Bird Atlas data.

All the presentations provided good information and useful management recommendations. They were well received by the state and federal biologists, who are in a position to implement those suggestions.

It was interesting to learn that Maryland supports some of the better populations for a number of the species of concern, and thus are a vital state for the regional management of these birds. We are already actively working with a number of these, including American and Least Bitterns, Black Rail, Upland Sandpiper, Northern Harrier, Barn Owl, and forest fragmentation issues as they affect neotropical migrants.

Also, it was encouraging to learn that Maryland is one of the top northeastern states as far as nongame wildlife management. We have one of the more progressive programs in the region. Some of this is due to the influx of funds made available through the Chesapeake Bay and Endangered Species tax checkoff. We are the only state with a full-time colonial waterbird biologist and urban wildlife biologist. We are at the top in barn owl management and with our efforts to minimize forest fragmentation impacts. This past year, we initiated an intensive survey of our nocturnal marsh birds, primarily rails and bitterns, and it was interesting to find out that very similar work was being conducted in Maine for these very same birds. It will be intesting to come results in another year or two.

From this conference we walked away with a number of new thoughts and ideas that, hopefully, will materialize into new nongame wildlife projects in the near future. Time will tell!

Glenn Therres

Winter Bird Survey Reaches Halfway Point

Last winter over fifty field-experienced birders ventured out during January and February to complete the third segment of the Winter Bird Survey. The Survey was initiated in 1988 with the goal of preparing winter range and relative abundance maps for Maryland's winter diurnal bird population. Over the long term the technique will make it possible to monitor trends, fluctuations, cycles and irruptions in wintering populations.

Volunteers are walking in an Atlas block from 7:30 to 11:30 in the morning between January 10 and February 10 on a route designed to cover proportionally the available habitat. Numbers of species and individuals are recorded.

Every other Atlas block in the state has been slated for coverage with a different tier of blocks in the USGS quadrangles targeted each year. This winter will mark a return to southern tier blocks, with the aim of finishing those up before moving on to central and northern blocks in the succeeding and final two years. Out of a total of 621 targeted blocks across the state, 277 have been surveyed thus far. A brief summary of results follows.

Clearly, much has been accomplished and that is noteworthy, commendable and exciting. Now, efforts must be directed to surveying the remaining blocks not chosen on the first go-round. If you are an experienced birder, able to identify winter birds by sight and song and would like to participate, please notify me as soon as possible. Winter birding can be exhilarating and remarkably good (as you will see below)!

Results

Total number of blocks surveyed in 3 years: 277
Total number of species observed during count time: 140
Mean number of species per block: 35.1; Range: 10-64

(continued on page 2, column 1)

Maryland Christmas Counts and Compilers 1990-91

December 15

Allegany County: John Willetts, Rt. 2, Box 640, Frostburg, MD 21532. 689-3202.

Catoctin Mountain (Frederick County): Mike Welch, 1832 Millstream Dr., Frederick, MD 21701. 663-3037.

Denton: Steve Westre, RR1, Box 212G, Denton, MD 21629. 479-0338.

Jug Bay: Bob and Pat Melville, 6401 Mallard Ln., Lothian, MD 20711. 627-8376.

Washington, D.C.: Audubon Naturalists Society, 301-652-9188. Ask for info sheet.

December 16

Baltimore Harbor: Peter Webb, 7014 Lancaster Rd., Baltimore, MD 21207. 486-1217.

Lower Kent: Floyd Parks, 129 Washington Ave., Chestertown, MD 21620. 778-3040

Pt. Tabacco: George Wilmot, 401 Amherst Rd., Bryans Rd., MD 20616. 375-8552.

Salisbury: Charles Vaughn (see Crisfield).

Seneca: Craig Tufts, (w) 703-790-4438, (h) 703-689-2590.

St. Michaels: Carolyn Mills, Box 93, St. Michaels MD 21663. 745-5209.

December 22

Triadelphia Reservoir: Norm Saunders, 1261 Cavendish Dr., Colesville , MD 20904. (h) 989-9035, (w) 202-272-5248.

December 26

S. Dorchester County (Blackwater NWR): Chan Robbins (see Ocean City).

December 27

Crisfield: Charles Vaughn, 1306 Frederick Ave., Salisbury, MD 21801. 742-7221.

Washington County: Cam Lewis, 1908 Applewood Dr., Hagerstown, MD 21740. 791-2516.

December 28

Ocean City: Chan Robbins, 7902 Brooklyn Bridge Rd., Laurel, MD 20707. 725-1176.

December 29

Bowie: Fred Fallon, 249-1518 and Woody Martin, (o) 498-0401.

Chincoteague, Va.: Fred Scott, 115 Kennondale Lane, Richmond, VA 23226. 804/282-2666.

Sugarloaf Mt.: Gary Nelson, 5514 Spruce Tree Ave., Bethesda, MD 20814. 897-8916, Keith Van Ness, 80 Main St., Walkersville, MD 21793. 845-4450.

Pt. Lookout: Ann Bishop, P. O. Box 178, St. Inigoes, MD 20684. 872-5355.

December 30

Annapolis: Hal Wierenga, 647-7439, Sue Ricciardi, 647-9513.

December 31

Elkton: Joel Citron, 2003 Ferndale Dr., Wilmington, DE 19810. 302/475-8773; between 12/15-12/27 call Al Palmer, 302/478-4238.

Rock Run: Dennis Kirkwood, 265 Brandenbaugh Rd., Newark Farms, White Hall, MD 21161. 692-5905.

Winter Bird Survey

(continued from page 1, column 2)

Species Appearing in Most Number of Blocks

	# of Blocks	(%)
American Crow	273	98.6
Downy Woodpecker	268	96.8
Northern Cardinal	268	96.8
Tufted Titmouse	265	95.7
Blue Jay	260	93.9
Dark-eyed Junco	258	93.1
Red-bellied Woodpecker	258	93.1
White-throated Sparrow	253	91.3
Carolina Wren	253	91.3
Song Sparrow	253	91.3

Ranking by Average Number of Individuals Per Block

Common Grackle	278
Canada Goose	176
Red-winged Blackbird	168
European Starling	133
American Crow	51
Snow Goose	44
Ring-billed Gull	41
House Sparrow	38
White-throated Sparrow	38
Dark-eyed Junco	30
House Finch	28

Blocks Yielding Most Number of Species

Quadrangle	Quad, Block Numbers	Number of Species
Public Landing	224,2	64
Ninepin	209,4	55
Buckeystown	86,4	52
Girdletree	233,5	52
Cambridge	172,5	51
Trappe	160,2	51
Millington	99,1	50
Ocean City	211,1	49
Eden	206,5	49
Finksburg	71,2	48

Additional Observations: A number of good finds were reported: An American Woodcock in southern Garrett County; a Red Crossbill in Allegany County; a Lesser Black-backed Gull near Finksburg; 22 Double-crested Cormorants in southern Charles County and a Common Raven in southern Calvert County. In addition, on the lower Eastern Shore, Chipping sparrows turned up in three blocks and an Orange-crowned Warbler was observed near Marion. A Pied-billed Grebe near Annapolis and a Rough-legged Hawk in Somerset County were remarkable in that this was the first year either species was reported. Also remarkable was Michael O'Brien's 64 species observed in a single block (Public Landing in Worcester County). Recall that the winter of 1989 produced no reports of Snow Buntings, Pine Siskins or Evening Grosbeaks. However, last winter, Siskins were reported in 22 (23%) blocks and Grosbeaks in 4 (4%) blocks. Some possible trends merit closer study in the future. Data for American Black Duck and Mallard show a three-year increase both in average number of individuals per block and the percentage of blocks in which the species was seen. On the other hand, Red-Shouldered Hawk and Hermit Thrush data show a three-year decline in the same two statistics. Ring-billed Gull and Golden-crowned Kinglet have been turning up in an increasing number (and percentage) of blocks over the three years, with the latter reported in 80% of the blocks surveyed this past winter. These observations must be treated with caution, however, because different blocks were surveyed each winter.

Thanks are due to the following observers in 1990: Polly Batchelder, Chris Beaton, Rick Blom, Bob Boxwell, Dave Brinker, Danny Bystrak, Paul Bystrak, Jim Cheevers, Les Coble, Patty Craig, Jean Crump, Jon Cupp, Deanna Dawson, Sam Droege, Bob Dixon, Les Eastman, Jeff Effinger, Gerald Elgert, Fred and Jane Fallon, R. B. Farrar Jr., Jane Farrell, Harold Fogleman, Robert Folker, Carol Ghebelian, Rob Gibbs, David Holmes, Clark Jeschke, Emily Joyce, Hank Kaestner, Joan McKearnan, Dave Mozurkewich, Harvey and Marion Mudd, Michael O'Brien, Paul O'Brien, Jan Reese, Sue Ricciardi, Bob Ringler, Chandler Robbins, Jo Solem, Jim Stasz, Byron Swift, Charles Swift, Kermit Updegrove, Brad Vaughn, Charles Vaughn, June Vaughn, David Wallace, Pete Webb, Steve Westre, Jim Wilkinson and George Wilmot.

Sue A. Ricciardi 1132 Ferber Avenue,
Arnold, MD 21012
301-647-9513

Phone Number Correction

The phone number listed for Eirik A. (Rick) Blom in the table on page 5 of the September/October 1990 Yellowthroat is incorrect. The correct number is 893-4339. Please update your list. Thank you.

Mini Lecture
Bathing

All birds have a stereotyped behavior when it comes to the care of body feathers. Water bathing is practiced by most species of birds and appears to be a preparation process so that the bird can preen and oil its feathers. Bathing is not haphazard but is a sequence of characteristic gestures that is species specific. This behavior pattern is innate in most species but may be learned or triggered as young birds watch older birds bathe.

As we watch the activity of our feathered friends in our backyard birdbath, we notice that most songbirds begin to bathe by standing in shallow water. The bird then dips its head into the water and flips water onto its back. The next sequence of events involves the fluttering of the wings and shaking of the bill in the water to wet the flight feathers. The tail feathers are also immersed in water and fluttered as part of the wetting process. The object is not to soak the feathers, since after bathing the bird flaps, vibrates, shakes and flutters in order to throw off excess water. It seems that bathing helps remove old oil and facilitates the spread of fresh oil from the uropygial gland.

Since water interferes with normal flight, birds preen after bathing. Preening removes any excess water remaining on the feathers, arranges the feathers, and smoothly distributes the preen oil. Preen oil, either as part of its chemical composition or in its interaction with sunlight, contains vitamin D. This vitamin serves as a diet supplement should some of the preen oil be swallowed during the preening process.

While we have concentrated on songbirds, bathing takes other forms in other species. Water birds dunk and flutter in the water they swim in. Other birds bathe in rain, flutter in wet vegetation, or fly over water and splash themselves. Whatever stereotyped behavior is followed, the resultant outcome maintains the feathers in such a manner to facilitate flight and to perform their thermoregulatory and/or buoyancy function.

Joseph M. Lewandowsh

Brewster's Warbler: A Caution for Field Birders

A recent article by Dr. Frank B. Gill on the genetics of Golden-winged (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) and Blue-winged (*V. pinus*) Warblers has some interesting implications for field birders. One result of his study raises questions about the field identification of hybrids, especially those labelled "Brewster's" Warblers.

Dr. Gill has written extensively on the problem of Golden-winged and Blue-winged Warblers. His most recent article **(Allozymes and Genetic Similarity of Blue-winged and Golden-winged Warblers,** *Auk*: 104:444-449. July 1987) was an electrophoretic study of the two birds, and attempted to establish the genetic difference between the two populations. I won't go into the technical side of the study, but the results were interesting. Dr. Gill found that, genetically, Golden-winged and Blue-winged Warblers showed about the same amount of variation as is typically found **within species.** Simply, they do not show sufficient difference to be treated as species. Dr. Gill stopped short of recommending that they be lumped however, suggesting that more sophisticated studies are needed. Although this study seems to indicate that eventually the two "winged" warblers will be treated as a single species. Dr. Gill (*in litt.*) says that there is unpublished biochemical evidence that suggests considerable distance between the two. He also notes that there appear to be places in the zone of overlap where no hybrids occur.

The other interesting part of the study had to do with plumage variation within each species. Specimens of Golden-winged Warblers were collected in northern Minnesota, far from the closest population of Blue-winged Warblers. Similarly, Blue-wings were collected from Missouri, far from the closest breeding populations of Golden-wings. These populations should have been genetically pure, showing no evidence of intergression and no hybrid characters. What he discovered was that these birds showed variations birdwatchers normally associate with hybrids. For example, he found Golden-wings with yellow on the underparts, slightly separated and white-tinged wing bars, and seven of twenty-nine specimens with some white on the chin.

In the Blue-wing population he found that about half the birds collected had some yellow in the wing, and that some showed a tendency to reduced space between the wing-bars, or some gray in the back or the rump.

What does all this mean to field birders? It suggests that we need to exercise considerable caution before claiming hybrids (typically called "Brewster's" Warbler). It has been widely assumed by most birders that birds showing any plumage variation were in fact hybrids. Dr. Gill's study points out that this may not be true. how can we tell? I am not sure at this point. I would assume that any Blue-wing showing black in the face, or any Golden-wing with extensive yellow below **and** extensive white in the wing bars can be called a hybrid. (I do not like the name "Brewsters" Warbler. Science does not traditionally name hybirds [birds intermediate between two species] or intergrades [birds intermediate between two subspecies]. Science does name discrete, identifiable populations.) I also assume that birds presently called "Lawrence's" Warbler represent hybrids.

Dr. Gill suggests that Golden-winged Warblers, with some yellow on the underparts may be one-year old males, though he points out that studies of known-age birds will be needed to confirm that possibility.

The solution is to submit detailed descriptions of any bird thought to vary from the pure plumage of Golden-winged or Blue-winged Warblers. Until we learn more it may not be possible to assign parentage to these birds, and it may not be possible in all cases once we do learn more about the limit of variation in both species and in hybrids.

Eirik A. T. Blom

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Unanswered Questions

What is the spring distribution of Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs in Maryland?

Doesn't sound like much of a challenge does it? There is an unanswered question however. Scattered and incomplete data suggests that Greater Yellowlegs are fairly rare on the Eastern Shore in the spring, and are certainly outnumbered by Lesser Yellowlegs by a great margin.

On the other hand, the farther west one travels in the state, the greater the percentage of Greaters, or the lesser the percentage of Lessers. Is this true, and if so why?

The **if** can only be answered if we get enough careful data from all segments of the state. Not just the earliest and latest dates, but complete counts of all yellowlegs seen in spring migration. The **why** may be easier. Greater Yellowlegs do not breed directly north of Maryland, their summer range being confined to areas not only north, but mostly west of us. Those birds that are migrating up the Atlantic Coast have got to start turning west at some point, and preliminary data suggests that most of them do so near the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay. Lesser Yellowlegs, on the other hand, so breed to the north of us, and it has long been known that there is a significant migration of them along the coast all the way into New England.

The idea is to acquire enough data so that we can show a change in the ratio of the two from east to west, if such a change actually takes place.

Eirik A. T. Blom

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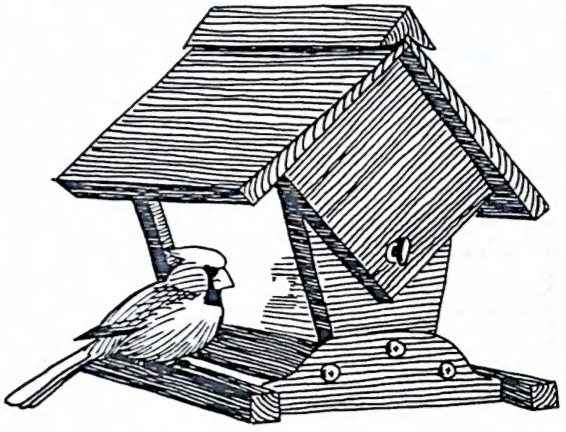

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MARYLAND LOCALITY LISTS: ANNUAL REQUEST

Forms to use in submitting your Maryland locality lists are provided below. This year you are invited to send in cumulative totals for Maryland and/or any of its counties or the District of Columbia; for annual lists for 1990 or "all-time high annual" lists; and for cumulative yard lists. We hope that all who have participated will do so again, and that others will join in, especially those from localities which are now less than well represented.

As in previous years, we will report each submitted cumulative total and/or 1990 annual list for Maryland, any of its counties, or DC. For the "all-time high annual" list category, totals for any year prior to 1990 may also be submitted now for Maryland if such totals equal or exceed 271 (70% of "possible"). For any individual county, totals from previous years submitted now should exceed either 50% of "possible" or one of the top totals published for that county in the March/April 1990 THE MARYLAND YELLOWTHROAT.

Remember that for cumulative yard lists you should count any species you have identified while standing in your "yard" (that is, the property contiguous to the site of your home). "Flyovers" and other birds seen <u>from</u> your yard (even if they were not <u>in</u> your yard) do count.

We remind those who sent in totals prior to 1989, but not in 1989, that it is especially important to update their totals this year. Space may not permit publication of lists that are not reasonably current.

Please return the form BEFORE January 20, 1991. The results will be published as soon thereafter as possible.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ County: _____

State: _____ Zip code: _____

Telephone numbers: Daytime: ( )_____ Evening: ( )_____

Cumulative Yard List: _____ _____

locality no. of species

Annual lists for Maryland, District of Columbia, or any Maryland County:

_____ _____ _____

locality name no. of species year

_____ _____ _____

locality name no. of species year

_____ _____ _____

locality name no. of species year

If you compiled annual locality lists for more than three localities, please report these totals on a separate piece of paper and attach it.

Total cumulative number of species identified in Maryland and in the District of Columbia:

State/County	Number of species identified in--	State/County	Number of species identified in--
Maryland State		Howard County	
Allegany County		Kent County	
Anne Arundel County		Montgomery County	
Baltimore County*		Prince George's County	
Calvert County		Queen Anne's County	
Caroline County		St. Mary's County	
Carroll County		Somerset County	
Cecil County		Talbot County	
Charles County		Washington County	
Dorchester County		Wicomico County	
Frederick County		Worcester County	
Garrett County			
Harford County		District of Columbia	

*This will also include the birds in Baltimore City.

Number of Species identified in all 23 counties in Maryland: _____
For example, if you have identified a mockingbird, an American Crow, a downy woodpecker, and a red-tailed hawk in all 23 counties in Maryland, enter 4 in the space provided.

Any questions??? Call: Harvey Mudd (301) 530-7322

Please return this form *BEFORE* January 20, 1991 to:

Harvey Mudd
9507 Wadsworth Dr.
Bethesda, MD 20817

Thank you for taking the time to respond to our survey.

If you have any comments, please write them below. We'd like to hear from you.

MOS Calendar--December/January, 1990-91

Saturday, December 1

MOS Board of Directors Meeting.

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Blackwater NWR, Dorchester Co. Good for waterfowl and bald eagles. The leader is Chris Beaton, 301-849-8451. Meet 7 am at the Annapolis Mall Park & Ride lot off Jennifer Road.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Loch Raven Reservoir. Waterfowl on the reservoir, fox sparrow, and bald eagle possible. Spotting scopes recommended. Meet 8 am at the Timonium Park & Ride lot. The leader is Steve Simon, 301-628-1929.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Bombay Hook NWR. Joint trip with Howard County Park & Recreation Dept. Transportation by bus; $16 fee. Meet 7:30 am at George Howard Bldg. Call Ho. Co. Park & Rec. for registration info at 301-313-2762 or Bonnie Ott for trip details at 301-461-3361. The leader is Chuck Dupree.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Lily Pons and Oland Road. Winter sparrows, raptors, waterfowl, loggerhead shrikes, horned larks; snow buntings and longspurs possible. Meet 7:30 am at Monocacy River Bridge on Lily Pons Road. Reservations only. The leader is Gail MacKiernan, 301-593-7334.

FIELD TRIP. Wicomico. Deal Island. The leader is Polly Batchelder, 301-651-0982.

Sunday, December 2

FIELD TRIP. Jug Bay. Cuckold Creek off the Potomac River near Cobb Island in Charles County. For further information, contact the leader, Jean Tierney, at 301-579-6452.

Thursday, December 6

MEETING. Frederick. "Olympic Peninsula of Washington--Scenery, Spotted Owls, and Assorted Other Things," by Mark Garland, naturalist with the Audubon Naturalist Society of the Central Atlantic States. Annual Christmas Dinner, Araby Church, Frederick, MD.

Friday, December 7

MEETING. Anne Arundel. "The Birds of Arizona," by Dr. Robert Trever. 8 pm at the Annapolis Branch of the Anne Arundel County Library, 1410 West St., Annapolis.

Saturday, December 8

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Smithsonian Chesapeake Bay Center for Environmental Studies, Anne Arundel Co. Waterfowl and winter residents followed by hot soup at the Taylor's. The coordinator is Laddie Flyger, 301-647-4854. Meet 12 noon at the Annapolis Mall Park & Ride lot off Jennifer Road.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Southern Maryland. Trip to Charles County and neighboring southern Maryland counties for waterfowl and seasonally uncommon land birds. Meet 7:30 am at the Nursery Rd./Hammond's Ferry Rd. Park & Ride lot. The leaders are Steven Sanford, 301-922-5103, and Pete Webb, 301-486-1217.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Conowingo Dam. Wintering gulls and waterfowl, eagles. Meet at the dam at 9 am. Half day. Leader-Bob Ringler. For info., call Randy Robertson at 301-273-9029.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Bombay Hook NWR and Little Creek WMA, DE. Thousands of snow geese and other waterfowl. Raptors and variety of landbirds. Meet 8 am at the Hollywood Diner in Dover, DE. The leader is Henry Bielstein, 301-292-9592.

FIELD TRIP. Washington. C&O Canal for winter residents. Meet 7:30 am at the entrance to Potomac Fish and Game Club. The leader is Truman Doyle.

Sunday, December 9

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Beginner's Trip. Meet 9 am at the entrance to the Westinghouse property on Rt. 50. The leader is Al Haury, 301-757-3523.

Tuesday, December 11

MEETING. Baltimore. "Eagles: From the Top of the Bay to the Top of the World," by Dr. James Fraser from the Dept. of Fisheries and Wildlife Science at Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Refreshments at 7:30, program at 8, at Cylburn Mansion, Baltimore.

MEETING. Kent. "The Barn Owl in Maryland," by Glenn Therres. 7:30 pm at the Kent County Library, Chestertown.

Thursday, December 13

MEETING. Howard. Subject TBA. 7:30 pm at Longfellow Elementary School, Columbia.

MEETING. Montgomery. "Travelling Through Time With the Space Telescope and COBE Satellites," by Nancy and Al Boggess, NASA astrophysicists and avid birders. 8 pm at the Potomac Presbyterian Church.

Wednesday, December 19

MEETING. Jug Bay. "Bald Eagles in Maryland." by Glenn Therres. 7 pm at Patuxent River Park.

Thursday, January 3

MEETING. Frederick. "In Quest of the Rose-throated Becard--Arizona Adventures," by Bill Shirey, Norm Chamberlain, and Mike Welch.

Friday, Januray 4

MEETING. Anne Arundel. "The Water Weed That Ate the Potomac--Where Did It Go?" by Rich Dolesh. 8 pm at the Annapolis Branch of the Anne Arundel County Library, 1410 West St., Annapolis.

MEETING. Harford. "Ecology and Fauna of the Southwest." by Pam Rhoads. 7 pm at the Churchville Presbyterian Church, Churchville.

Saturday, January 5

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Lancaster County, PA. All-day trip to Pennsylvania in search of horned larks, rough-legged hawks, and rarities. Lapland longspur and long-eared owl possible. The leader is Steve Sanford, 301-922-5103. Meet 8 am at the Timonium Park & Ride lot.

FIELD TRIP. Washington. Little Bennett Regional Park for owls. Meet 4:15 am at the MD Rt. 65 and I-70 Park & Ride. Leader to be announced.

Sunday, January 6

COVERED DISH SUPPER. Baltimore. "Down the Birding Lane," by Bill Newman. For reservations and information contact Catherine & Clauson Smoot, 301-828-4011.

Thursday, January 10

MEETING. Howard. Subject TBA. 7:30 pm at Longfellow Elementary School, Columbia.

MEETING. Montgomery. "Something to do with birds," by Bob Ringler. 8 pm at the Potomac Presbyterian Church.

Saturday, January 12

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Middle Creek. Wintering waterfowl hot spot in PA. Meet at Conowingo pool parking lot (Rt. 1 on Harford side of dam) at 7 am. All day - bring lunch. Coordinator - June Vaughn, 301-838-4427.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Feeder Trip to Howard County Locations. Meet at 1 pm at Grempler Real Estate, Columbia. For further information contact Bonnie Ott at 301-461-3361.

Sunday, January 13

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Conowingo Dam, Harford Co. Good for winter gulls and waterfowl. The leader is Sue Ricciardi, 301-647-9513. Meet 9 am at the Annapolis Mall Park & Ride lot off Jennifer Road.

FIELD TRIP. Frederick. New Design Rd., Frederick Co. A chance to see Horned Larks and possible Longspurs. Meet at 1 pm. The leader is Bill Shirey.

Wednesday, January 16

MEETING. Allegany. "Bird Migration and Navigation," by Hugh McIsaac, ornithologist from Frostburg State University. 7 pm at the Board of Education on Washington St. in Cumberland.

Friday, January 18

MEETING. Caroline. Speaker TBA. 7:30 pm at the Caroline County Library.

Saturday, January 19

MID-WINTER BIRD COUNT. Baltimore. The compiler is Bob Ringler, 301-549-6031.

Tuesday, January 22

MEETING. Washington. "Shore Birds," by Bob Ringler. 7:30 pm at Funkstown Elementary School, Funkstown. MD.

Calendar *continued*

Saturday, January 26

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. New Design Road. Trip to southern Frederick County for possible horned larks, Lapland longspurs, white-crowned sparrows, and tree sparrows. Expect short walks in open fields with cold winds. Spotting scopes recommended. The leader is Jim Wilkinson, 301-747-6082. Meet 8 am at the Security Boulevard Park & Ride lot.

MID-WINTER COUNT. Harford. Harford Countians contact Bill Pfingsten, 301-838-5732. Cecil County Coordinator is Marv Kastama, 301-378-3063. Everyone should try to participate in this extremely important bird census.

MID-WINTER COUNT. Howard. For further information, contact Bonnie Ott at 301-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Kent. Trish Gruber will speak on "Birds and Their Habitat," followed by a birdwalk at Remington Farms. For further information, contact Helga Orrick at 301-778-3524.

Sunday, January 27

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Annapolis Neck, Anne Arundel Co. Waterfowl and winter residents from Hillsmere to Bay Ridge followed by hot soup at the Ford's. Meet 12 noon at the Bay Ridge Shopping Center parking lot. The leaders are John and Helen Ford, 301-267-8417.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Savage Park. Winter habitat walk co-sponsored with Howard County Park & Recreation Dept. Meet at 1 pm at the brick park office building in Savage Park. For further details contact Bonnie Ott at 301-461-3361.

Monday, January 28

MEETING. Wicomico. Topic TBA. 7:30 pm at Asbury United Methodist Church, Salisbury.

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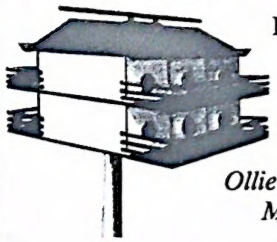

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